General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 133

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/56/989)*]

56/293. Support account for peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993 and 56/241 of 24 December 2001, its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995 and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001[1] and on the budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003,[2] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations being able to respond and deploy rapidly a peacekeeping operation upon the adoption of a Security Council mandate,

Recognizing also the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,[4] notes with appreciation the introduction of the results-based budgeting format to the support account for peacekeeping operations, and requests that further improvements be made in the format, taking into account the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 8 to 15 of its report;[3]

2. *Reaffirms* the need for effective and efficient administration and financial management of peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to continue to identify measures to increase the productivity and efficiency of the support account;

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[1] A/56/882.
[2] A/56/885.
[3] A/56/941.
[4] A/56/882 and A/56/885.

3. *Affirms* the need for adequate funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, as well as the need for justification for that funding in support account budget submissions;

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a coherent policy on gender mainstreaming in all peacekeeping activities of the Organization, to submit, if necessary, a request on this issue in the light of that policy, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to review the proposal for the D-1 post of Chief of the Communication and Information Technology Service, outlined in paragraph 34 of the report of the Secretary-General,[2] at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Approves* the request for two information officer posts at the P-4 level, as outlined in paragraph 71 of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the formula approved in General Assembly resolution 55/273 of 14 June 2001, with regard to the resident auditor posts, and to present information on the employment of such resident auditors in a consolidated manner in future support account reports;

9. *Notes with concern* the high level of resources for consultants and travel in the report of the Secretary-General,[2] especially in view of the large number of new posts proposed, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full and efficient use of "in house" United Nations expertise before projecting resource needs for consultants within the support account submission;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the feasibility of consolidating the accounts of the different peacekeeping operations, while following the current practice of reporting, budgeting and financing of peacekeeping operations, in accordance with the existing Financial Rules and Regulations of the United Nations;

11. *Decides* to review at its resumed fifty-eighth session the existing posts approved in its resolutions 55/238 of 23 December 2000 and 56/241 and in the present resolution, in order to consider their justification, taking into account the ongoing evaluation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat of the impact of the recent restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat on its performance in the backstopping of peacekeeping operations;

12. *Decides also* to maintain, for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the funding mechanism for the support account used in the current period, from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, as approved in paragraph 3 of its resolution 50/221 B of 7 June 1996;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that delegation of authority to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and field missions is in strict compliance with relevant resolutions and decisions and the relevant rules and procedures of the General Assembly on this matter;

14. *Takes note of* the status of recruitment of the ninety-one additional posts approved for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in its resolution 56/241, and requests an update at its fifty-seventh session;

15. *Reiterates its concern* over the imbalance in the geographical representation of Member States in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and urges the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to improve the representation of underrepresented and unrepresented Member States in future recruitment;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to use in future reports of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations the term "the recommendations of the Advisory Committee that were adopted by the General Assembly" instead of the term currently in use;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide in future reports on the financing of the support account an annex containing information on the status of implementation of relevant adopted recommendations of the Advisory Committee and other oversight bodies;

18. *Reiterates* the need to develop a methodology and monitoring system to evaluate the results of training in peacekeeping and related areas, as recommended in paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[3] and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Special Committee on Peacekeeping, at its fifty-seventh session;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001

19. *Approves* the additional requirements of 2,136,200 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

20. *Decides* to apply other income of 2,264,000 dollars, from interest income in the amount of 1,699,000 dollars, miscellaneous income in the amount of 24,000 dollars and savings on, or cancellation of, prior period obligations in the amount of 541,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, against this amount;

21. *Approves* an increase of 741,000 dollars in respect of income from staff assessment for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

22. *Approves* the support account requirements in the amount of 100,896,200 dollars gross for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, including six hundred and eighty-seven continuing and fifteen new temporary posts and their related post and non-post requirements;

23. *Also approves* an estimate of 13,739,300 dollars in respect of income from staff assessment for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

Financing of requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations

24. *Decides* that requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 shall be financed as follows:

(*a*) The balance of other income for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 127,800 dollars, over additional requirements for the same period to be applied to the amount of 100,896,200 dollars;

(*b*) The balance of 100,768,400 dollars to be prorated among the budgets of the active peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;

25. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the prorated requirements provided for above a prorated amount totalling 14,480,300 dollars, being the estimated staff assessment income for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and the increase in staff assessment income for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001.

105th plenary meeting
27 June 2002